

Baruipur News

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Bishop's House, Baruipur P.O., Kolkata-700 144, India

April-June 2020

COVID-19

The observation of Lenten season and celebration of the Holy Week followed by the Easter this year was probably the unique in the history of the Church because of the lockdown due to the pandemic COVID - 19. The churches during the celebrations in the Holy Week are overcrowded but this year it was totally empty. A priest alone or along with his assistant, without any faithful or even the nuns had to conduct the services. It is also a unique experience of the people across the globe when all were restricted to confine themselves within their houses. All possible means were undertaken to keep the population within their houses. Even the busiest railway platforms, airports and markets were empty.

The administration was trying to see and making use of every means to keep the people stay at home so that they are not moving unnecessarily or maintaining social distance. The police are trying to make the lockdown effective; they are also bringing awareness among the people through songs.

All the doctors, nurses and health workers of all the hospitals even by risking their own lives are tirelessly rendering their services to the patients to combat this deadly corona virus.

Till date the highest number of patients passed away on a single day is 2694 in USA on 15th April 2020; total number of patients infected in the globe is 7,108,915; out of which total number of patients passed away is 406,461; total number of countries including territories affected is 215 out of 251 countries and territories; whereas the total number of patients recovered is 3,468,224. The highest single day's infection in the country is 9,971.

In order to prevent the spread of pandemic corona virus lockdown was imposed throughout the country in four phases, the first phase started on 24th March 2020 for a period of 21 days at a stretch while the second phase started on 15th April 2020 for a period of 19 days. On 1st May it was extended by two week until 17th May 2020 and on 17th May it was extended further till 31st May 2020.

The corona virus has resulted the tremendous changes in the lives of the people. All the train services, local as well as long distance, had to be suspended. Likewise, bus services, national and international flights were also suspended. The schools and colleges are shut down, all the places of social gatherings and ceremonies including church, mosque, temple, marriages, funeral have been suspended.

The sudden lockdown throughout the country put the poor people along with the family members including the small babies stranded in different

cities and towns without proper shelter, food, water, money and basic requirements. The people had to take shelter under the trees or under the bridges or railway platforms.

Lockdown of the whole country was absolutely necessary and very vital because India is a vast country, the second most populated country in the world with 138.72 crores of population. Without lockdown, it would have created a dangerous situation for the country and totally beyond control of the spread of infection when much developed Western countries could not combat the situation.

The worse sufferers are those who are stranded due to the 40 days lockdown of the country. These people are the daily bread earners, poor people mostly sustain themselves as daily workers, farmers, fishermen, hawkers, vendors, rickshaw pullers, auto-drivers, toto-drivers and so on.

The people in this situation were desperate to go back to their houses but could not succeed as all the transport services had been suspended. Some people even without understanding the importance of danger of walking hundreds of kilo-metre started their journey towards their homeland though they have been stopped by the police.

In certain parts of the country, the Govt. administration had taken proactive role to reach the food materials, water, masks and sanitizers to the stranded people but those were too little comparing to the need. People were practically starving. The Incident took place such as the selling of the mobile phone in order to get food for the dependents.

In this period of crisis due to pandemic when the death toll is day by day increasing, the rate of new cases of infection on increase and moreover when the govt. is trying its best to bring the spread of this deadly virus under control, we need to be cooperative with the Government, doctors, nurses, health workers, police administration and we should take care of ourselves, our families by using masks and keeping social distance.

The prayer is the best victorious weapon to combat this deadly virus and save the world. We must continue to pray for those who are directly involved with this virus so that God protect them. Holy Father Pope Francis said that the worldwide corona virus pandemic is not God's judgement on humanity but God's call on people to judge what is most important to them and resolve to act accordingly from now on. Pope says that God is calling people to faith, not just believing God exists but turning to him and trusting him. He says this is a time to decide differently, live better, love more and care for others.

+ Shyamal Bose

From PUS Diary

Capacity Building of Field Level Volunteers on Disaster Risk Reduction



PUS Baruipur conducted 2 days capacity building training on DRR for field level volunteers on 6th & 7th February 2020 at PUS. Altogether 40 volunteers from different disaster prone blocks of Sundarban participated in this DRR Training.

Field Level Participants Volunteers were very much motivated about their role & responsibilities during disaster like flood, cyclone and emergency humanitarian response to cope with the disaster situation in affected area of Sundarban, the project operational area of PUS.

Support to Educational Sponsored Children

PUS organized a one day Annual programme for the sponsored children of Calcutta Sponsor AID on 8th February 2020 at Palli Unnayan Samiti Baruipur. Altogether 24 sponsored children and their parents attended the programme.

The sponsored children showed their talents through rhymes, dances, songs and public speaking etc. Parents encouraged their children to take part in the programme.

All sponsored children received educational expenses and materials, uniform, toiletries like tooth paste, coconut oil, bathing soaps and also mosquito Net. Sponsored children have drawn a picture as they liked. They wrote a letter to wish their Belgium sponsors of CSA as: HAPPY EASTER. Children and parents conveyed their heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Astere Allaert, Mrs. Marie Paul and Belgium Sponsor Committee for their kind hearted support.



Non Food Item (NFI) Kits Distributed to Affected Families as Recovery of Bulbul Cyclone

On 9th November 2019, the cyclonic storm "Bulbul" hit Sundarban Islands which caused a big disaster. NFI kits have been distributed as recovery to 1000 most vulnerable families on 18th March 2020 from Baliyara Sampad Kendra of Mousuni Island under Namkhana block to cater the needs of Cyclone Bulbul affected families in love and solidarity.

Promotion of Solar Energy

Solar lantern has been distributed to 207 disadvantage children at 6 evening tuition centers in Langalberia GP under Sonarpur block. The "energy", source from fossil fuel is adding environmental pollution and elements to accelerate global warmingclimate change. The children are using the given solar lantern during study at night and also using for cooking and other household job during power off; few mothers using it for Zori craft and embroidery work at home as means of livelihood.



From PUS Diary

GB Meeting of PUS Held at Bokkhali - Sundarban

PUS Baruipur had organized meeting cum picnic for the members of the Governing Board of PUS Baruipur on 25 February 2020 at Bakkhali- Sundarban under Namkhana Block. Though it was drizzling, yet the members gathered at Bishop's House and started for Bakkhali at 6:30 a.m.

The breakfast was served in the vehicle and after arriving Bokkhali the board meeting stated at 9:30 a.m. Rt. Rev. Bishop Shyamal Bose was welcomed by the members as a member of the board. After GB meeting the members visited Bokkhali sea beach and Natural Park. All the members were happy and enjoyed the beauty of Sea beach at Bokkhali.



Launching of Lenten Campaign-2020



Upon the theme "Sustain Life/Sustainable Livelihood PUS Baruipur launched Lenten campaign-2020 on Ash Wednesday at Cathedral Church on 26th February 2020. Rt. Rev. Salvadore Lobo offered the Holy Eucharist concelebrated by Rt. Rev. Shyamal Bose; Fr. Sushil Modi, Administrator of Caritas India and Fr. Parimal Kanji. Lenten Campaign-2020 was launched by Rt. Rev. Bishop Salvadore Lobo in the presence of Caritas India's representative Fr. Sushil Modi, Mrs. Asha Ekka and Mr. Mukul Gomes. Annual Lenten Campaign 2020 focusing on the theme "Sustain Life: Sustainable Livelihood invites everyone to join hands and come together to be catalyst- a change agent to adopt "Each one Help one" approach in reaching out to attain a sustainable livelihood. With this message posters, banners, calendars and collection bhandar were distributed to all the people present. Fr. Sushil Modi then launched Lenten Campaign-2020 at Palli Unnayan Samiti Baruipur in the presence of PUS staff.



- Fr. Parimal Kanji

Celebration of Women's Day

Women's Commission of Baruiपुर Diocese celebrated its International Women's Day on 8th of March 2020 in Palli Unnayan Samiti, Baruiपुर. Our theme for this year was **"An Equal World In An Enabled World"**. Around 8 parishes participated for the programme. We were fortunate to have among us Rt. Rev. Bishop Salvadore Lobo, Rev. Fr. Parimal Kanji (Director of Palli Unnayan Samiti), Rev. Fr. Himangshu Poti, Rev. Fr. Salvatore Murmu S.J. and Rev. Fr. Kanauj Roy.

The day began with the Eucharistic celebration followed by felicitation of our guests, bishop and all the priests, present. Bishop and the four priests were told to distribute the gifts (water bottle) to all the women.

The opening speech was given by Most Rev. Bishop Lobo, who demonstrated about the Saint Joan of Arc. At the age of 18, she led French forces into a number of stunning victories over the English. This picture of Joan of Arc, beautified Saint of the Catholic Church, has come to resemble all aspects of Women Empowerment and celebrated strategist who fought for French territory over England. He also added we must follow the footsteps of Mother Mary and by following the path of God we will always be successful in every work we do.

Fr. Parimal Kanji conveyed a message through a story. He said once when he went to offer Mass it was the women who offered him water and meal and they were the ones who came to interact with him unlike the men. So it's a woman; a mother who takes the initiative to take care of us and our surroundings. He also spoke about his commission and the kind of



work Palli Unnayan does for the betterment of our society.

Fr. Salvatore Murmu S.J illustrated how women did hard work through their life. If we turn the pages of history we see that Vidyasagar and Raja Rammohan Roy fought against child marriage and defended women's right to education. We can never deny the contribution of our mother in life. It's because of a mother that we could become a priest and serve the church. So we should respect and give value to all the female personalities we come across in life.

Fr. Kanauj Roy very well emphasised the relationship between men and women. He mentioned that no one is different or should be mentioed as two different gender but they are complementary (পরিপূরক) to each other. We should never differentiate that a woman is getting married to a man but we should always say there is going be a holy matrimony between two human being.

Fr. Himangshu Poti illustrated that it is not always that a man is a rival of a woman but

most of the time it is a woman who goes against a woman. We as women's commission and catholic pupil should give respect and value to every woman. We should appreciate the dignity of each other and give tribute to the hard work performed by each one of us.

The secretary of the commission conveyed her message by a PPT show where it was well elaborated the reason behind the celebration of International Women's Day and at present women are successful in many different field; previously we had lot of deadlocks and complication but overcoming all the obstacles women have reached to the peak of achievement even excelling men.

After this all proceeded for lunch followed by dispersal. I would like to thank the Almighty, Bishop and all the priests who supported me for this programme. A special thanks to Fr. Parimal for offering me this place for the programme to be held. And a hearty thanks to Fr. Deepak Ekka for helping and supporting me for this celebration.

- Ms. Babli Das

Bishop Shyamal Bose Visits his Seminary

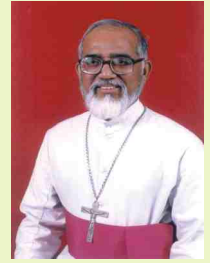


On 18th of March St. John Vianney Minor Seminary Barasat had a unique privilege of having Rt. Rev. Shyamal Bose - Coadjutor Bishop of Baruiपुर. JVS community invited him to felicitate and to preach a recollection to the seminarians. Bishop is a former student of the minor seminary and he is the first student of JVS to become a bishop. The Seminary had arranged a short felicitation programme to honour him on 18th evening. On 19th morning his Lordship offered the Holy Eucharist on the feast of St. Joseph for all the neighboring communities. In his homily he emphasized on the simplicity of St. Joseph and encouraged us to inculcate the example and need to work with more patience, obedience and in silence and always relying on God. After the Mass in a short felicitation programme the neighbouring communities congratulated and thanked him for his inspiring message. He also spoke to the brothers on "Repentance" the topic of the recollection where he highlighted on God's mercy as a fitting preparation for the Holy Week. We, the young seminarians, were not only proud of our former student

but also very much inspired by his life and his talk. Wish you Bishop a Very Happy Birthday.

- Br. Hrittick Hazra

Retirement of Bishop Salvadore Lobo



4 May 2020 was a day of mixed emotions for the faithful of Baruipur diocese. For on that day the retirement of His Excellency, Most Rev. Salvadore Lobo, was announced by Holy Father, Pope Francis. It was a moment of sadness for many at the same time a moment of joy for the diocese to see a son of the soil, Most Rev. Shyamal Bose, succeeding him as the Bishop of Baruipur. It was a well-planned succession of a local bishop.

Bishop Salvadore Lobo was born on 30 April 1945 in Mangalore Diocese, Karnataka. He was ordained priest on 19 March 1973 and served the diocese as parish priest, Vicar General and the Administrator of the diocese before being appointed its bishop on 16 October 1997. He was ordained bishop on 29 January 1998. He was the Chairman of the CBCI office for Social Communications. He shepherded the diocese as bishop for 22 years.

In his tenure as bishop he always strived after fulfilling the demands of the time in the face of many adversities for the pastoral and steady growth of the diocese. In order to cater to the spiritual and temporal needs of the People of God, from the time he took over the pastoral leadership in 1995, few quasi parishes, a number of new parishes, several new churches, new presbyteries and mission stations have been established and old ones were extended and renovated. To mention a few: Sonarpur (1998), Ranigrah (1998), Salepur (2007), Sajnaberia (2000), Panchamkhanda (2003), Gangarampur (2000), Diamond Harbour (2001), Canning (2004), Nazat (2015), Sobnamaskar and Panchamkhanda (2017), Basanti (2012) Thakurpukur (2016), Bamanpukur (2017) and Hogalkuria (2018).

Many religious men and women have been invited to take up the challenges of the diocese. They are: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (SABS) Diamond Park (1996), the Carmelite of Mother Carmel (CMC) Budge Budge (19980), Missionaries of Charity Sisters, Kirtankhala (MC) (1999) and Gangarampur (2004), Daughters of the Cross (FC) Gosaba (2000) and Baidyapur (2017), Daughters of St. Anne (DSA) Ranigrah (2000) and Kalikanan (2002), Holy Cross Convent (HCM) Bakeswar (2017), Sisters of Destitute, Canning (2018).

His took up educational endeavours with the involvement of religious: K.E.

Carmel School, Sarisha (2007), De Paul School, Canning (2008), St. Xavier's Technical Institute, Basanti CMI (2009), St. Montfort Sr. Secondary School, Balarampur (2011), De Paul School, Jayanpur (2014), Bethany School, Thakurpukur (2015), Carmel English Medium School, Keorapukur (2015), St. Mary's English Medium School, Kalyanpur (2015).

However, on a priority basis, the Pastoral Centre, Dishari, was built in 2007 to give an impetus to the pastoral activities in the diocese. The Cathedral was built for the diocese in 2009. To ensure healthy family Paribar Jyoti was established in 2004. Similarly, to promote the local vocations a minor seminary was started in 2004 and named as Samarpan where 16 young men are studying now.

A Senior Clergy Home, named ASHA, was built in 2019 and equipped with many facilities for the retired priests to spend their retired life comfortably and with dignity. They really deserve these facilities as they worked hard and sacrificed their lives for the welfare of the people in the diocese.

With a view to empowering the diocesan Clergy and to helping them gain more pastoral expertise in order that they may serve the people effectively and professionally, many priests were sent for higher studies to do the Post-Graduate and the Doctoral Studies in Ecclesiastical and Secular streams.

The diocese is greatly indebted to him and gratefully acknowledges his selfless and tireless 43 years of pastoral ministry in the diocese. It is beyond doubt that he has done his duties, be it pastoral, administrative, educational, financial, spiritual or temporal, with diligence and dedication keeping before the interest of the diocese. His contribution towards building Baruipur diocese will certainly help develop the mission of Jesus Christ. In a nut shell, he has worked hard to bring the diocese where it stands today.

We shall have an official thanksgiving programme later which we could not have due to lockdown.

- Fr. Deepak Ekka

Double Blow of Natural Calamity, Amphan and Bishop's Visit

In the midst of Pandemic Covid-19, the much feared cyclone, Amphan, hit Eastern India and Bangladesh on 20 May 2020 as predicted earlier by India Meteorological Department. South 24 Parganas, North 24 Parganas and Kolkata are among the seven severely affected districts of Bengal. The storm ravaged shops, blew away tinned and asbestos roofs, demolished mud houses, harmed livestock, damaged several structures, uprooted trees, pulled-down the electricity lines, disrupted the supply of power, water and communication. As per reports, it claimed 86 lives in Bengal. Consequently, it caused a great economic loss to the people.

For Bengal already struggling to cope with the damages inflicted by Covid-19, the super cyclone has added a new devastating blow. And, as if Pandemic wasn't enough, Bengal now has also to battle nature's fury. Our parishes, convents, institutions and people living there had their share of nature's fury. As we know that people in our parishes are mostly poor and live in mud houses with roof made of tin, asbestos, straw or tiles. The mighty wind and storm (120 km/hour) caused by cyclone, Amphan, either broke or blown off their roof. Fearing any further harm they rushed to our churches, convents and institutions to take refuge. All the priests and sisters extended their hands generously in accommodating them with shelter, food and water. The people are very much grateful that the church stood by their side in the difficult time. There are many who have been put in different cyclone shelters after losing their homes. It has posed challenging difficulties before the Government. There is fear for the rescue workers of being infected by Covid-19 in cyclone shelters. This fear

even made many people to refuse to be evacuated as some evacuees said they would rather die in their own houses than risk infection in cyclone shelters. Now, to maintain social distancing to avoid the spread of corona virus, there is a risk that cyclone shelters will be too small and will lack proper sanitation services, especially for women. The plight of millions who have lost their homes has been made worse in a situation when the pandemic is raging across the region. There are fears that the region could become a corona virus hotbed, with millions housed in shelters. Rising salinity in water has put tens of thousands of people out of work in the State in the aftermath of cyclone, Amphan, like it did after cyclone, Aila. But unlike 2009, when Aila struck, affected people do not have the option of migrating to Calcutta or other cities in search of work because of the lockdown. A reverse migration is taking place because of the novel coronavirus with tens of thousands of people returning to Bengal. The storm is like a death knell for these people, already dependent on government and NGO support. The restoration of aforesaid damages would take many years.

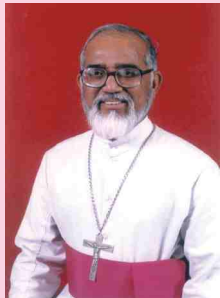
The above are the common experiences of all the parishes, convents and institutions to share with bishop while he visited them.

The day after the cyclone, Amphan, ceased Most Rev. Shyamal Bose spared few days to visit all those parishes, convents and institutions of the diocese which have been adversely affected. It was to share solidarity with them to cope with natural calamity and to make appraisal of the damage left in the wake of cyclone, Amphan.

- Fr. Deepak Ekka



Gratitude to Most Rev Salvadore Lobo, Bishop Emeritus Baruipur



I do not have the audacity to measure the greatness of the personality like Most Rev. Salvadore Lobo but the immensity of gratitude stored in my heart compels me to do so. Here I would like to share few things as to how I have experienced him very closely in my personal life and working with him. This could be considered as a tribute to him as his successor of the diocese.

He is a person of great personality enriched with vast experiences, skills and wisdom. He came to Bengal in 1973. I saw him for the first time in my village at Gosaba, I was a boy of 12 years studying in the seventh standard. He came to the village from Basanti parish on a Saturday to offer the monthly Sunday Eucharist the next day. The priest used to go on Saturday by launch and used to offer the day's first Mass in Gosaba at 7.00 a.m. after which he would go on foot to another village called Pakhirala for the second Mass there. After the Mass the priest would take some muri (puffed rice) and tea and start walking towards another village called Sabnamaskar for the third Mass at 11.00 a.m. After the Mass lunch would be served followed by rest for an hour to proceed to another village called Birajnagar to offer the final Eucharist of the day at 3.00 p.m. and then he would go back to Basanti by launch at 5.00 p.m. This was the fixed timetable for all the times be it summer, winter, or rainy seasons.

He was the Rector of St. John Marie Vianney Seminary at Basanti.

On a Sunday evening, while coming back from my village Gosaba, he asked me to come to Basanti as he wanted to take my photos. The next day, I came to Basanti and he clicked some photos of mine. He had his own lab where he used to develop and print the photos. Later on one of the photos was printed with a note in different vernacular languages seeking young people to join the seminary to study for priesthood. He had a professional hand in photography.

While working with him very closely as Vicar General or as Director of social works of the diocese, I found him a person of deep knowledge. He reads and reads tirelessly. He likes to read novels as well as other books. I have seen that he would not waste time to possess the best seller book once it is published. In a way he knew everything about something and something about everything.

Bishop Salvadore Lobo is quite popular as a Retreat Preacher. I myself had attended my annual retreat when I was a student of second year Philosophy in Morning Star Regional Seminary. Till recently he kept up his habit of preaching retreat and I am sure he will continue the same.

Bishop Salvadore Lobo is the symbol of simplicity. He uses just an ordinary cotton kurta whether he is in the diocese or in the national meeting or he is walking on the road. He is a lover of creatures whether small or big. I learnt from him that this earth belongs to every creature. Therefore we do not have the

right to harm or kill any even if it be a poisonous snake.

He is a great lover of nature. He is ready to take any trouble to collect various types of plants from different cities from within or outside country if he finds that a particular plant could be grown in the garden of Bishop's House. He used to have collection of books with plants, flowers and birds. Therefore he had an extensive knowledge about them.

I have never experienced him getting angry. If someone makes a mistake, he took it calmly without irritation. He never criticizes anyone. On the other hand he always appreciative even a small thing when it is unnoticed by others.

Everybody knows that he likes to travel. I have seen him to travel in the diocese even after having a long journey by flight or by train when situation demands.

Being Hospitable is a noble character of Bishop Salvadore Lobo. In spite of business he will always make time for the guests and spend time with them.

I found him to be a person of multi-faceted personality. His versatility in different fields is drawn from his deep union with the Lord who is the source of his strength.

He is a priest belonging to the diocese of Baruipur going to render services to the diocese of Asansol and once he completes his work there as the Apostolic Administrator he will come back to his own diocese and the whole diocese will wait for that moment.

+Shyamal Bose

Bishop Emeritus, Salvadore Lobo Appointed as Apostolic Administrator of Asansol Diocese

After accepting the resignation of Most Rev. Salvadore Lobo from the pastoral care of the diocese of Baruipur on the completion of 75 years, Pope Francis has appointed him as the Apostolic Administrator sede vacante et nutum Sanctae sedis of the Diocese of Asansol on 4 May 2020.

Asansol is 250 k.m. to the north of Baruipur. The diocese spreads over 13,300 sq. K.M. area with 13.5 million people of which 30,300 are Catholics. 60% of Catholics in the diocese belong to Santhali tribe, 35% Hindi speaking and the rest are Bengali and English speaking. It has 32 parishes in which 52

diocesan priests, 40 religious priests, over 200 sisters serve the diocese.

Shantiniketan University founded by Rabindranath Tagore is in the diocese.

While congratulating him for assuming new responsibility as Apostolic Administrator of Asansol Diocese, let us continue to pray for him that he may be fruitful in service in the new place and do the holy will of the Lord and serve His people in the pastoral ministry.

- Fr. Deepak Ekka



Installation of Most Rev. Shyamal Bose as the Third Bishop of Baruipur

Sunday 10 May 2020, the Installation of Most Rev. Shyamal Bose, will be forever reminisced in the annals of the diocese of Baruipur as a truly momentous day for its uniqueness. On this day His Excellency, Most Rev. Shyamal Bose, was installed to the pastoral care of the diocese of Baruipur in a celebration of the Eucharist at Cathedral of Immaculate Heart of Mary and St. Teresa of Calcutta. The installation ceremony of a new bishop which is to take place normally in a public Eucharistic liturgical celebration could not be possible due to the inevitable lockdown enforced by the Pandemic Covid -19. Thus, it took place in the presence of a bishop and ten priests. After the entrance hymn Bishop Salvadore Lobo led and seated the new Bishop in the "Cathedra" or his "Chair"; a sign of his threefold office of teaching, sanctifying and governing in the particular Church. Then the new bishop Shyamal Bose presided over the Mass in a usual manner. This singular ceremony indeed marked the beginning of a new chapter in both the life of the bishop and the diocese that he has been appointed to shepherd by the Holy Father. After the Mass there was a very short felicitation to the new Bishop and a vote of thanks to the Bishop Emeritus, Salvadore Lobo followed by fellowship breakfast in the Bishop's House refectory.

Bishop Shyamal Bose was born of Mr. Matrin Bose and Late Gita Bose on 24 March 1961 in Gosaba, a village very close to Sundarban forest in our diocese. He joined St. John Mary Vianney Minor Seminary, Barasat in 1981 and studied philosophy at Morning Star Regional Seminary, Barrackpore and theology at St. Albert's College, Ranchi. He was ordained priest on 5 May 1991 for our diocese. He obtained M.Th. Degree in Biblical Theology from St. Peter's Pontifical Seminary, Bangalore in 2010.

He served the diocese for 28 years in the following ministries: Asst. Parish priest in St. Anthony's Church, Keorapukur (1991-1994); Asst. Parish



Priest in Ascension Church Khari (1994-1996); Parish Priest in Khari (1996-1998); Director of Diocesan Social Service Society in Baruipur (1998-2006); Vicar General of the diocese (2000-2008); Vicar General cum Parish Priest in Sacred Heart Church Thakurpukur (2006-2008); Director of Regional Forum for Social Works in Kolkata (2010-2011); Asst. Parish Priest in Kumrokhali (2011-2012); Parish Priest in Kumrokhali (2012-2016). At the time of his appointment announced on 17 May 2019 as the Coadjutor Bishop of Baruipur he was the Treasurer cum Secretary of finance committee & Chancellor of the diocese. He was consecrated as the Coadjutor Bishop of Baruipur on 24 June 2019.

Recently he has authored well appreciated catechism book titled. "কাতলিক ধর্মশিক্ষার সরল ব্যাখ্যা - Catholic Dharma Shikhar Sarol Bakhya"

We, the clergy, religious and laity congratulate Most Rev. Shyamal Bose for taking pastoral care of the diocese and wish him a fruitful and successful episcopacy in our diocese. May Mary, Mother of the Church, and St. Teresa of Calcutta, Patroness of our diocese, intercede with God and continue to guide him.

- Fr. Deepak Ekka

Circular

PRIESTS COUNCIL

The Following Council of Priests for the Catholic Diocese of Baruipur has been formed with effect from May 05, 2020 for a period of three years.

1. Ex Officio Members:

Rt. Rev. Shyamal Bose - *Bishop of Baruipur*
 Rev. Fr. Kanauj Roy - *Vicar General of CDB*
 Rev. Fr. Raphael Joseph Hyde, S.J. - *Provincial of Society of Jesus, Kolkata*
 Rev. Fr. Sunny G. Kunnel, S.J. - *Rector of Dhyan Ashram, Konchowki*
 Rev. Fr. Tushar Augustine Gomes - *Rector of Minor Seminary, Baruipur*
 Rev. Fr. Saumen Malik - *Director of Dishari Pastoral Centre, Baruipur*

2. Representative of Parish Priests:

Rev. Fr. Abonindro Das
 Rev. Fr. John Britto
 Rev. Fr. Durlav Bar
 Rev. Fr. Salvatore Murmu, S.J.
 Rev. Fr. Arup Bor
 Rev. Fr. Ujjwal Mondal

3. Representatives of Priests in Institutions:

Rev. Fr. Deepak Ekka

4. Representatives of Curate:

Rev. Fr. Sunil Ray
 Rev. Fr. Alope Kanji
 Rev. Fr. Sarajit Das

5. Representatives of Religious Priests:

Rev. Fr. Patrick Walsh, S.J.
 Rev. Fr. Vincent Patrick S.J.
 Rev. Fr. Sajeev Painunkal, S.J.

6. Nominated by the Bishop:

Rev. Fr. J.A. Santhanam
 Rev. Fr. Jonas Singha
 Rev. Fr. Indrajit Sardar

BOARD OF CONSULTORS

Most Rev. Shyamal Bose, Fr. Kanauj Roy, Fr. Tushar Augustine Gomes, Fr. Jonas Singha, Fr. Alope Kanji, Fr. J. A. Santhanam, Fr. Sunny G. Kunnel, S.J.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Most Rev. Shyamal Bose, Fr. Kanauj Roy, Fr. Tushar Augustine Gomes, Fr. Jonas Singha, Fr. J.A. Santhanam, Mr. Samir Lobwo, Mr. Mukul Gomes.



JUNE

02	Fr. Himangshu Poti
02	Fr. Sandip Mondal
10	Fr. N. Jinesh Sebastian, SJ
11	Fr. Charles M. Kanji
14	Fr. Henry Crasta
19	Fr. Aloysius Carvalho, SJ
20	Fr. Saumen Malik
21	Fr. Sunil Ray
26	Fr. William Zenith, SJ

NOTICE

1. Rev. Fr. Kanauj Roy is appointed Vicar General of Catholic Diocese of Baruipur with effect from May 7, 2020.
2. Rev. Fr. Tushar Augustine Gomes is appointed Chancellor of Catholic Diocese of Baruipur with effect from May 7, 2020.

Intentions for the Apostleship of Prayer, Month of June 2020

The Way of the Heart

We pray that all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.

Responding to the Needs of our Times

The adverse impact of dual crisis, Covid-19 followed by Cyclone, Amphan, has put the millions of people in jeopardy. The central government and state government are trying their best to alleviate the suffering of people by chalking out different schemes and plans. The different financial packages had been announced to stabilize the deteriorating economy and untold agony of poor and marginalized migrants who have been stranded with no food and shelter due to these crises. The hounrable, Prime minister, Mr. Narendra Modi, announced 1000 core emergency relief package for the cyclone affected people after making the assessment of the damage left by cyclone, Amphan, which hit West Bengal on 20 May 2020. Besides, governments there are number of NGOs who are busy as well for the same cause.

The diocese of Baruipur stepped up with relief work to people who are in want due to lockdown and cyclone. Parishes and religious institutions in the diocese voluntarily came forward in rendering their helping hands to these people according to their capabilities. The relief efforts were carried out with the approval of government officials as well as with due respect to the measures of lockdown. As a whole so far 9817 families have been reached out across 21 parishes and institutions of the diocese. They distributed dry food materials such as rice, dal, salt, pulses, sugar, cooking oil, tealeaf packets, soya bean, potatoes, onions, soaps, surf, mask and sanitizers.

Besides, Palli Unnayan Samiti, a diocesan social service Centre, since lockdown has been actively involved in relieving the suffering of adversely affected people. It has reached out to 10131 people with essential supplies of food commodities like rice, dal, salt, pulses, sugar, cooking oil, tealeaf packets, soya bean, potatoes, onions, soaps, surf, mask, sanitizers, sanitary napkins etc. 1092 families are given dry food kit; hand wash or soaps were distributed to 2500; masks were provided to 1035, psychological support was made available to 275 and 276 people were served with cooked food.

However, this would not have been possible without the help and generous support of many well-wishers and sponsors. The diocese is grateful and appreciates all for reading the signs of the time and taking such initiatives to meet the demands of the time.

- Fr. Deepak Ekka

